

to learn self-management. It would also provide education of the public and education and training for physicians.

I am proud to support this bill as an important first step toward a day when we can prevent, treat, and cure Arthritis.

ALGAE-BASED RENEWABLE FUEL PROMOTION ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY McNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. McNERNEY. Madam Speaker, yesterday the House of Representatives passed H.R. 4168, the Algae-based Renewable Fuel Promotion Act of 2009, a bill I am pleased to support. I would like to thank Mr. TEAGUE for his efforts to incentivize the production of environmentally-friendly biofuels. Mr. TEAGUE worked across party lines to advance bipartisan legislation, and he deserves recognition for his leadership.

H.R. 4168 is a significant step forward, but I believe that additional refinements could help incentivize a broader array of environmentally friendly, economically viable biofuels. As we continue working to fine tune this legislation and related proposals, we should seek to ensure that federal tax policy treats all viable technologies fairly and equitably. I look forward to working with Mr. TEAGUE, Mr. BILBRAY, and other interested members to make sure that algal biofuels produced in Northern California fully benefit from this bill.

Developing new sources of cellulosic biofuels is beneficial to the environment, the economy, and national security. I thank the authors of H.R. 4168 for their efforts.

INTRODUCTION OF FEDERAL EMPLOYEE DISABILITY INSURANCE ACT OF 2010

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce a bill to offer Federal employees supplemental disability insurance at no cost to the Federal Government. My bill will allow Federal employees to collect disability benefits to replace a portion of their income if they become unable to work because of a non-work related injury or illness. While the Federal Government does offer non-work related disability benefits to Federal employees, they do not protect the lost income of employees who become disabled but who have not been employed by the Federal Government for at least 18 months, or 5 years as the case may be, and are disabled for less than 1 year. Under current law, Federal employees hired before 1984 who become disabled for more than 1 year are eligible to collect their Federal employee retirement pension if they have 5 years of creditable civilian service, while Federal employees hired after 1984 who become disabled for 1 year or more cannot collect such benefits unless they have been employed by the Federal Government for 18 months or more. With-

out the disability insurance option that my bill will offer, a Federal employee who becomes disabled, even for a short time, is at risk of financial ruin.

My bill is also significant because, although it will require Federal employees to pay 100% of premiums, the purchasing power of the Federal Government will allow Federal employees to pay lower insurance premiums and will not exclude those with preexisting conditions. A Federal employee can still elect to purchase disability insurance in the private marketplace, but they may face higher premiums or even be denied coverage altogether because of a pre-existing condition. This bill is a much needed supplement to the insurance benefits currently available to Federal employees.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

THE STEM TO STEAM RESOLUTION

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, today I introduced the STEM to STEAM resolution, which recognizes the importance of art and design in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields.

Art and design advance the understanding of STEM learning and collaboration. In classrooms and laboratories across the country, the innovative practices of art and design play an essential role in improving STEM education and advancing STEM research. In order to strengthen the pipeline of future artists and designers, we must add STEAM to legislation that shapes the future of our education system, especially the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and the America Competes Act. Congress must also encourage institutions of higher education to incorporate art and design into their STEM curricula.

Art and design contribute real solutions to our everyday lives, distinguish America's products in a global marketplace, and create opportunity for economic growth in the United States. Artists and designers can effectively communicate complex data and scientific information to multiple stakeholders and broad audiences. The tools and methods they use also offer new models for creative problem-solving and interdisciplinary partnerships in our growing 21st Century economy. For instance, they are integral in planning sustainable neighborhoods, renewable energy initiatives, and health information technologies. They also play a critical role in the development of modern technology to support new American manufacturing opportunities.

It is also important to seek collaboration among the different federal agencies that oversee STEM programs. That is why I recommend the creation of a STEM to STEAM Council, which would bring together artists, designers, education and business leaders, and Federal agencies to facilitate a comprehensive approach to incorporate art and design into Federal STEM programs.

I encourage all my colleagues to support this resolution to change STEM to STEAM to expand innovation and opportunity in our country's education and research fields.

INTRODUCING THE CLEAN, RENEWABLE JET FUEL ACT OF 2010

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. INSLEE. Madam Speaker, currently, the aviation industry does not have a commercially available low-carbon fuel option nor is there a statutory requirement (like the Renewable Fuel Standard for transportation fuels or tax incentives to help bring one to market. However, low-carbon, renewable aviation biofuels have been successfully tested in flights of both military as well as civilian aircraft.

Unfortunately, the volatility of jet fuel prices makes it difficult for renewable jet fuel to compete with lower-cost petroleum-based fuel and attract the investment necessary to build commercial-scale refineries.

I rise today to introduce the Clean, Renewable Jet Fuel Act of 2010. This bill will establish a responsible loan program that will allow biofuel producers to climb over the economic hurdles associated with commercializing their product. The commercialization of these products will not only create jobs at these facilities it will also create jobs throughout the aviation and agriculture industry. Additionally, the fuels that will be produced will also enhance our Nation's energy security as all of the feedstocks used to make these biofuels can be grown on U.S. soil. Recently, the Secretary of the Navy, Ray Mabus, made the research development, and increased use of alternative fuels a priority for the Department of the Navy.

These biofuels also offer a range of attractive technological and environmental aspects that will introduce efficiencies into our aviation sector that cannot be realized with current petroleum-based fuel sources.

In the great state of Washington, interests from the private sector, universities, and major airports are already working to bring the first generation of aviation biofuels to the market, and their efforts can be greatly enhanced by this legislation. These fuels are based on plants such as camelina, jatropha, and even algae; plants that can be grown right in the Pacific Northwest. In addition to being able to grow these feedstocks in our own backyard, research on the next generation of biofuels is also creating jobs at our highly regarded research institutions. These efforts will make sure that the U.S. secures its competitive edge in this field.

In closing, I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this bill, and hope that we can work together to move it towards passage as soon as possible.

HONORING FILIPINO AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I acknowledge this month as Filipino American History Month. With passage of House Resolution 780 last year, the House of Representatives officially recognizes